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Message Text

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47
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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 PM-03 DODE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

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DRAFTED BY EUR/IB:MLDURKEE:MJK
APPROVED BY EUR - MR. LAINGEN
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---------- 093437
O 191554Z MAY 75 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 116052

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, SP

SUBJECT: BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REF.: MADRID 3192

1. FOLLOWING POINTS MIGHT USEFULLY BE CONVEYED IN YOUR CONTACTS FOR GOS OFFICIALS INVOLVED WITH BASE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. IN CONTEXT OF EVENTUAL NEW AGREEMENT, USG CONTINUES TO CONSIDER WAYS TO HELP GOS REGARDING MAINTENANCE OF EFFECTIVE SPANISH DEFENSE CAPABILITIES, BUT RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO USG FOR DEFENSE PURPOSES ARE UNDER SEVERE BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS. WE HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT SPANISH INTERESTS IN US ASSISTANCE WILL BE BASED ON REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS. FYI: WE WOULD PREFER THAT YOU NOT RAISE QUESTIONS OF FACILITIES AT THIS TIME. CONFIDENTIAL

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END FYI.

3. MAY 14 WASHINGTON POST CARRIED ACOCA STORY REFERRING TO SPANISH SOURCES AS SAYING THAT GOS HAD HARDENED

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ITS POSITION ON SSBN'S AT ROTA. YOU MAY INDICATE THAT
WASHINGTON AGENCIES CONCERNED THAT PUBLIC SPECULATION

ON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS IN BASE NEGOTIATIONS WILL NOT
MAKE IT ANY EASIER FOR NEGOTIATORS TO DO THEIR WORK.

4. FINALLY, YOU MAY INDICATE THAT WHILE NO FIRM DECISION
TAKEN REGARDING DATE OF NEXT NEGOTIATING ROUND, EARLY
TO MID-JUNE MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE TIME FRAME. WE WOULD
LIKE TO KNOW SPANISH VIEWS ON TIMING. INGERSOLL

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